

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
YUICHI HIGUCHI )  
Application No.: Unassigned )  
(This is a divisional application of U.S. )  
Patent Application No. 09/901,687, filed on )  
July 11, 2001, and allowed on August 27, )  
2003, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent )  
Application No. 09/184,656, filed on )  
November 3, 1998, allowed April 4, 2001, and )  
issued on September 4, 2001 as U.S. Patent )  
No. 6,283,653 B1.) )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: PRINTING APPARATUS, PRINT )  
CONTROL APPARATUS, AND )  
METHOD FOR USE IN THOSE )  
APPARATUSES )

Examiner: Unassigned  
Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
December 1, 2003

**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application in the following manner: